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THE BASSANO MAIL

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Publishers

Clive B. Nesbitt

James L. Nesbitt

A Christmas Legend

One day in the late fall of 1897 the New York Sun received the following letter:

"Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old.
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.
Papa says, "If you see it in the Sun it is so."
Please tell me the truth.

Virginia O'Hanlon,
115 West 95th Street.

This letter was turned over for reply to Franklin Parcellus Church, an editorial writer on The Sun. The article which he wrote in response has probably been reprinted more times than any other article ever written by a newspaperman in any language. It was originally published as an editorial in The Sun on December 21, 1897. The author's identity was not made public until the death of Mr. Church nine years later. This remarkable editorial is reproduced here as a classic expression of Christmas sentiment.

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be little, is not comprehensible to their little minds. All minds Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exists, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas, how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all the world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of children."

THE IRRIGATION BLOCK PROPOSAL

It is now generally known that the Canadian Pacific Railway has taken under serious consideration a proposal from the settlers' committee of the eastern irrigable block that the entire land holdings and irrigation works in that area should be turned over to them on exceptionally advantageous financial terms. Before the proposal can be validated it will have to receive the ratification of the settlers as well as that of the supreme C.P.R. authority.

For certain reasons the full terms as set out in the proposal have not been published. These are common knowledge in the district, however, and will be discussed at the various public meetings held for that purpose. In effect the tentative agreement provides for the transfer of the land and irrigation system for a comparatively small sum of money, payment of which is to be extended over twenty years without interest. A government guarantee is not required.

Taking into consideration the amount of money invested by the C.P.R. in the project, the company's apparent willingness to accept the seemingly extreme demands appears difficult to understand. The underlying reason, we believe, lies in the company's changed policies. The C.P.R. is a gigantic concern which has spread into many fields of activity. It is in the forestry and lumbering business, in mining, real estate, farming, colonizing, hotel-keeping, as well as railroading and steamship operating. It is generally known that the company has been hard hit by the depression. No organization of that size could very well escape the depression caused by such a widespread and acute period of hard times. As a consequence the decision has probably been reached to trim sails.

Naturally some of the settlers on the irrigation block must look upon the proposal with a certain amount of suspicion. It looks too good to be true! So some agitation has been started suggesting that the system is worn out, that the company is trying to unload a "white elephant" on the settlers, that main structures are in critical condition and other similar ideas. The claim is also being made that the proposal is being hurried through entirely too quickly.

All these matters could easily be brushed aside. The whole question is too important. Each point must be given the fullest consideration and explanation. There really is no necessity for too much hurry or too much effort at salesmanship. The settlers are entitled to the fullest and frankest discussion. Confidence is the one basis that can make this proposal a success.

The Mail does not believe the eastern irrigation system is a "white elephant" and the terms of the proposal. The one great handicap to the entire enterprise—high capitalization—

is wiped out by the agreement. But the settlers should be convinced of this in their own minds. If the project is not to be the price stipulated by the settlers' committee, then the settlers are wasting their time staying on their farms under any conditions. Most of the land is worth little except under irrigation. Our viewpoint is that if the land and the irrigation are made cheap enough, the system can be developed fully and the block made into one of the most flourishing regions in Western Canada.

It should not be overlooked that current times and prices will not always prevail. Greater prices for farm products and the entire picture would be changed. Right now farming is at a low ebb. If it were not, the C.P.R. would not be so willing to consider the rather drastic proposals suggested.

Ten Minutes
- with the -
Scotch Philosopher

Farmers and gentlemen, when this tale was recited to us a few weeks ago by "Jim," who modestly suggested that it should be published in the Mail, we refrained lest you editors be overwhelmed with indignant protests. After investigating the story's veracity by interviewing his wife, the hired man and the banker, all of whom swear by his truthfulness, with pleasure we now release it for your consideration.

While mining in the Klondike many years ago, "Jim" was the owner of a tame Grizzly Bear, which he used to ride back and forth to his claim up the valley. Now we'll let the bear tamer himself finish the yarn.

"One evening I wanted to go home but my bear wasn't in his usual place. 'However, after searching in the bush nearby, I found him in a very early mood; but after I had cuffed and kicked him around a bit, he scuttled down and away on his back. I immediately reached the cabin and my own grizzly was sitting on the doorstep waiting for his supper.'"

"When your wives tell you that the hens are eating their own cackles, berries, under this story and they will understand why the poultry feed to trust the queer ways of man."

"Curious to find out how the grating of axes worked out both ways, a group of gentlemen, foregathered in Winnipeg, telephoned to a well-known packing house for a case of 'extras.' Without opening the box, they immediately returned it for sale as a mess outfit, with this rather peculiar result:

"Four dozen and six graded extras and the rest 'ones' and 'twos.'
Yeah, Horatio, 'there are more things in heaven and earth, etc. etc.'"

"'Dearest,' sighed the youth, 'could you not learn to love me?'"
"I might," said the girl, "I hesitated to cut spinach."

"Some of you fellows must have heard the oft repeated assertion that 'it is better to be Scotch than Irish.' Well, it isn't any truer than that old saw about the Irish giving the Scotch the bagpipes as a joke, about the time good St. Patrick was driving the snakes out of the green Isle. For indisputable evidence on the subject, read on: On the way to the P. O. the other day that I received some duns to use for scribbling on wisdom as we saw something on the road that made our old heart go pitter-patter. There a battered lighted stopped and a long-haired Swede reached out and grabbed the child that was almost in our grasp.

"With a look of deep conviction on his face, 'Ollie' then told us that if it had been a dime, he'd have split with us.

"Isn't life a heckuva joke at times?"
Now well climb on top of the barn to grab the very gobble that is destined to tighten up the old belt at the Yuletide feast, and if we don't fall off and bust our neck, or get too puffed with the juice of the luscious chokecherry, we'll tell you in the next issue, the 'hottest' tale you ever heard about the Scotch!"

In the meantime, we cordially extend the customary greetings of the festive season, and hope that "next year" will bring to you all a greater measure of prosperity than has been your portion for many years.

Good Night!

RUSSIA TO ABANDON RATINGS

Ratifying of bread to the people of the U.S.S.R. will cease with the passing of the current year. Beginning January 1, 1935, 40 million people in the urban centres of the Soviet Union will say their bread is baked in ration cards. Prices will be regulated by the government to prevent profiteering. More than ten thousand saw shops will be opened in cities throughout the country to handle the business. Wages will be increased ten per cent to meet the increased living costs of the workers.

ROSEMARY

ROSEMARY, December 26. — Mr. and Mrs. Locke entertained Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dixon and daughter and Mr. Klint, of Calgary last Wednesday. Miss Molly Locke returned home with her friends for a short visit.

Chester Narm is down from Maj. service for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Young and son and Roy Graham motored to Calgary on Thursday.

The farmers are pleased over this season's turkey market. They say it was much better than last year. The buyers from Seattle, Calgary, was down here last Wednesday.

A number of local people attended the play at Pearl Station last week with Miss G. Brown and Mrs. J. Phalen.

Most of the local people attended the lecture in Bassano Monday evening, where Mr. Aberhart and Mr. Manning, of Calgary, spoke on "Social Credit."

A dance will be held in Rosemary on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, under the auspices of the Baseball Club. A good time is assured young and old.

Anglican Church Pastor
Extends Greetings

ANGLICAN CHURCH NOTICE
The Anglican Church will hold a special service on Christmas Day at 11 a.m. to which the whole community is cordially invited. It will be a family service in which everyone may join.

Special music will be given, including choir and soloists have been arranged for the occasion. We invite you to bring the family and friends to join with us in the old-fashioned Christmas hymns and carols, and partaking in the universal fellowship of that happy Morn'g.

May I personally take this opportunity to extend to all and sundry a sincere wish for God's richest blessings at Christmas-tide and in the New Year. May the Peace of the Christ child dwell in your hearts that day and illumine every home with the light of His Love.

In the words of Tiny Tim "God bless us everyone."

Yours sincerely,
J. B. Thomas

The steadily rising prices for low grade wheat has resulted in heavy deliveries in northern areas where the grain was damaged by frost.

Argentina's wheat crop is now the centre of a guessing contest. Estimates all the way from 225,000,000 to 260,000,000 bushels have been made.

Cagary Dry
THE WEST'S FINEST GINGER ALE



The drink that sparkles
with anticipation.

Made on the Genuine
BUFFALO BRAND

TRY
Orange CRUSH
A TRUE FRUIT BEVERAGE
CRUSH RICKY
FROM WEST INDIES LIME

A UNION MADE PRODUCT OF CALGARY BREWING AND MALTING COMPANY LIMITED

Distributed by W. S. PLAYFAIR, PHONE 26

Bright Stories
about Wine
ENGLAND IS NOT A WINE-PRODUCING COUNTRY

● So far as a diligent search of the records reveals, the people of Northern and Central Europe derived their drinking habits from the Romans, who, as we have noted, imitated the more civilized Greeks. We can only guess that it was the Roman legions which introduced the culture of the vine into the British Isles. But in the Domesday Book it is recorded that there was a grape orchard of six acres in Essex from which one hundred and sixty gallons of excellent wine were produced.

● Indeed, in those days it was a general belief, but maybe confined to Englishmen, that the wines of England were as good as the wines of France. We may say that it has not been cherished for some hundreds of years, and if there is any wine made in England to-day it is probably wholly a work of love or the perpetuation of an old habit. Here and there a man may grow grapes for wine making, just as here and there an Englishman may grow oranges in conservatories.

● It is not that soil and climate are unfavorable. It is just that Englishmen recognize that better wine is produced elsewhere. There is no tobacco grown in England either. But the best tobacco in the world finds its way there, and is either consumed or exported. Similarly, for a great many years, England has had the reputation of being the greatest fine wine market on earth.

T. G. Bright & Co.
CANADA'S LARGEST WINERY
NIAKARA FALLS ONTARIO

This advertisement is not inserted by the Alberta Liquor Control Board, or by the Government of the Province of Alberta.

Christmas Greetings
with best wishes for a
Bright and Successful New Year

Bassano Garage and Service Station
Bob Halbert, Herb Waines & Staff

Wishing You
A Christmas of Good Cheer
and a
New Year filled with Happiness

CITY MEAT MARKET
Alf Hansen, Proprietor.

Massey-Harris Farm Implements
General Electric Radios and Appliances

Compliments of the Season
and
Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

FLANAGAN BROS.
General Hardware

Simmons Beds
General Hardware

John I. McFarland will address a radio audience on "The World Without Audiences" on Wednesday, December 26th, at 8:15 p.m.

EDDIE, THE AD MAN

9 MORE FUNNY "TWO" RESULTS FROM GUY RICH'S LATE CLE MARY AD'S WAIT CAMPUS CAN CUE IN DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY ISSUE, GIRL WANTED TO HELP WITH HOUSEWORK, LAST BROTHER BROUGHT HIM TWO!



H. D. BACON

Team Work for any description. Gravel, clinders, beam, rotted nassars. Guarantee satisfaction on plowing. Cat Flowers - Sprays - Wreaths. Nursery Stock Orders taken care of. Phone 129 for lowest prices in town.

W. S. PLAYFAIR
FEED - AUTO LIVERY - DRAYING
Agency for

Galt Coal
PHONE 28 Opposite Depot

B. E. BARLOW
VETERINARY SURGEON
M. S. A., Toronto
M. V. A., Alberta
Government Official Veterinary
PHONE 20 BASSANO

HARRY HOLMES
CARPENTER AND BUILDER
Estimates Given on All Work.
If you are in need of building or carpenter work of any kind.
PHONE 14

WALTER K. WEBB
BARRISTER - SOLICITOR
NOTARY PUBLIC
Phone: Office 35 - Residence 46
BASSANO - ALBERTA

Hearty Xmas
Greetings
to you all.
Thank you for your Patronage.

BASSANO CREAMERY

A. T. CONNOLLY
Registered Optometrist
Broken lenses replaced from prescription or plates. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed. Quick service.
BASSANO, ALBERTA

Dr. A. G. Scott
M. B., L. M. C. C.
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
Telephones
Office 37 - Residence 131

WILLIAM McLAWS
Barrister - Solicitor - Notary
BASSANO - ALBERTA
Phone: Office 6 - Residence 129

"THE TIRELESS SEARCH"

by Bert Huffman

The other day at Corning, New York, a "county town" of 14,000 population, 100 miles south of the shore of Lake Ontario, a gigantic glass mirror was poured into its mould.

Sixty-five tons of molten borosilicate pyrex sand, bubbling and stewing at a temperature of 2500 degrees F., formed the base of this mirror.

This gigantic "eye" of glass, 200 inches in diameter, 8 inches in thickness, will form the reflector for the largest astronomical telescope yet conceived by the engineering brain of man. The largest reflector now upon the earth is but 100 ins. in diameter and is at the Mt. Wilson observatory in southern California.

This new giant brother will explore 27 per cent more of the infinite space of the universe than the Mt. Wilson telescope.

It will require ten months for this glinting, crystal jewel to cool. It will then require three years of skillful patient, expert hand labor to polish it so its clear, flawless surface will reflect the tiniest silver pin point of a star on the outermost edge of space. The cost of this gigantic new telescope, set in its mountings, will be six million dollars.

All of the common physical facts of its construction can easily be grasped by the layman—the white flamed glass, the gas for heating, the finished iron and steel and brass. But the tremendous scope of its vision, reaching into the unexplored spaces of the universe, into dim, cold silent reaches of space, never before penetrated by a telescope from our planet, gives us a mysterious thrill of wonder.

Its range of vision will be nine hundred million light years. This means 18,000,000,000,000 earth miles—185 with fourteen ciphers added. Eighteen quadrillion, five hundred trillion miles.

Light travels through space at the rate of 186,000 miles per second. Sixty seconds make one minute, sixty minutes make one hour, 24 hours make one day, 365 days one year. One light year, six trillion miles.

Proxima Centauri, the very nearest star to earth, is 4.27 light years away, about 36 1/2 trillion miles.

What will man's endless search discover in the unplumbed, secret sanctuaries of infinity, at the farthest limit of this great mirror's vision, nine hundred million light years away?

Stars and whirling clusters of stars, golden, gleaming suns with their families of troubled, perplexed, bewildered planets, like ours, following their equally disturbed motions, endlessly in their orbits.

If we could get a "closeup" of the most remote wobbling star on the edge of space, we would no doubt find the living counterparts of our own simple, human problems now disturbing our dull brains in Bow Valley, in Edmonton, in Ottawa.

How cruel, how childish, how infinitely inhuman do all our hatreds, all of our greed and grasping and opposing and avarice seem, when we stand silently, alone, and look upward among the golden, glowing, kindly stars at night.

Surely, the little earth was given to man for a higher purpose than have yet conceived or dreamed of. In this feverish, eager, tireless search for light, for truth, for knowledge, it would be difficult to find with this new, far-reaching "eye," a world that has made a greater mess of things than we have done.

Resources destroyed, millions in want, governments debauched, men destroying each other like fiendish, minds degraded in greed, selfishness, hatred.

Let us hope there is a pleasanter spectacle somewhere at the other end of this "eye's" vision.

THE BANKER

by T. LONGOTHAM

The banker is a gentleman who looks you thro' and thro' Then tells you most politely what you should or shouldn't do. How as cold as any iceberg when he's sorting dimes and pence. And in his haughty presence I feel small and dense.

Yet he'll share with me a bottle when the counting hours are done And I find him very human—there fore fond of joy and fun. And he loves his wife and kiddies just the same as you and me. So it's rather nice to meet him when from business he is free.

Yeah—but give him back his ledger, place him in his dinky den. And he treats me something awful when I beg some measly yen. So I tell him "Hyde and Jekyll", but, oh, never to his face. For the vulgar holds my mortgage, and it keeps me in his place.

Christmas Message from Minister of Knox Church

The editors of the Bassano Mail have kindly invited me, as the minister of Knox Church, to write an- other short Christmas message to its readers. They have thus given me a privilege, which I am, very glad to accept.

To begin with, I take the opportunity to wish every one of you a Merry Christmas, and to express the hope also that the coming New Year may be the happiest in the experience of you all.

Reassurance of heart in face of the difficulties and the trials of life is one of the finest gifts which the Christmas Season has to offer us.

"Fear not," it seems to say, as the Angel of the Lord is recorded to have said on the first Christmas morning to the shepherds in their bewilderment and dread. We are living now in a fear-filled world. The various plans which are being urged as suitable remedies for our industrial, economic and social ills can be of little or no value if they have not been formed without reference to the serious and important fact. People are afraid of losing what they have, and so do not spend and invest as they might; do therefore business of all kinds suffers. Nations are afraid one of another, and in consequence trade between them almost stagnates. If only we could banish fear, and restore confidence between man and man, and nation and nation, we should be far on the way to satisfactory conditions.

"To what a heaven the earth might grow, 'If fear beneath the earth were laid."

"If hope failed not, nor love decayed."

Christmas reminds us that a Living Love has been shown to be over all human life, and that the Savior so urgently needed by mankind has come.

J. Hart

COUNTESS

COUNTESS, December 18—Mrs Evelyn Jones is visiting with her sister, Mrs. W. E. Hawes.

Mr. and Mrs. Menzies, parents of Mrs. J. Cline and W. Menzies, arrived recently and will make their home with W. Menzies.

The last of the marketable turkeys will be shipped to Calgary this week. H. Walsh returned from Calgary last week, where he spent several days on business.

Miss McRoberts will spend the Christmas holidays with her parents in Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Benjamin had an dinner guests on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Gamble and children. Arthur Weddell left this week to spend the Christmas holidays with friends in Calgary.

B. D. Benjamin was a Calgary visitor on Tuesday of last week. A number of Countesses attended the play at Gen Friday evening.

H. Cowen and family spent a few days shopping in Calgary last week.



Merry Christmas

to all our

Friends and Customers

May the New Year bring you

Health and Happiness

LOUIS CONN

Phone 7

FREE DELIVERY

THE BEST FOR LESS

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

SMOKERS' SUPPLIES

Pipes - Pouches - Lighters - Ash Trays - Humidors
All specially priced for Christmas.

SMOKERS' SUPPLIES

Cigars - Cigarettes - Tobacco, all wrapped in Xmas boxes.

BRIDGE NOVELTIES

Cards, bridge size, single decks, 50c; double decks \$1.00
Score Pads, Pencils, etc.

CANDY

We carry a full line of Candy, Boxed Chocolates and a choice line of bulk Candy. Our stock is always fresh.

FOSTER'S BOWLING ALLEYS

BOWLING PHONE 18 BILLIARDS

Thank you for your patronage and best wishes for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

AUTO CAMP SERVICE STATION

N. E. Hinton Bassano, Alberta.

Wishing Everybody the
Merriest Christmas
and the
Brightest New Year
FAT'S QUICK LUNCH

For Christmas Cheer
... Alberta Beer!

It will uphold
all the kindly traditions
of the Season's Hospitality

Alberta Beers are obtainable at our Warehouses,
Vendor's Stores and your LOCAL HOTEL.

DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED

AGENTS FOR THE BREWING INDUSTRY OF ALBERTA

PHONE 82

BASSANO

This advertisement is not inserted by the Alberta Liquor Control Board or by the Government of Alberta.

WORLD HAPPENINGS
BRIEFLY TOLD

A multitude of 200,000 persons watched the Duke of Gloucester unveil the Anzac Memorial in honor of the First World War soldiers who fell in the war.

Cash income of United States farmers during October from all sources was reported by the bureau of agricultural economics to have totaled \$788,000,000, compared with \$620,000,000 in October, 1933.

D. Leo Doland, director of the Canadian travel bureau, is on a tour of western cities to get viewpoints on advertising Canadian attractions for tourists. Economic difficulties were not interfering with tourist traffic, he said.

Prime Minister J. Ramsay MacDonald announced in the House of Commons that Great Britain will not propose to the League of Nations resolutions for a pact of mutual assistance in the Pacific along the lines of the Locarno treaty.

The judicial committee of the privy council reserved judgment on the appeal of the province of Manitoba from a decision of the Canadian supreme court, in dispute with the Dominion government over timber dues.

The Earl of Beesborough, Canada's governor-general, already known as an accomplished actor, revealed himself as a horticulturist of note, winning the gold medal for the best variety of chrysanthemum shown at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto.

A wedding gift from the navies of the empire to the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina was exhibited at the admiralty in London in conjunction with a rare antique silver tea-service fitted into an oak chest on which is inscribed the names of the Royal navy and of the Dominion and Indian navies.

Russian Crown Exhibited

Was Sold By Soviet Government To Private Collector

A crown worn at their marriage by the last three Russian tsarinas was exhibited at the fine arts exposition at Knoedler's gallery, in New York. The crown, which is a part of the Czars private collection, is the most important piece of Russian crown jewelry known to have been sold by the Soviet government since its accession to power.

It is made of carved velvet ribbons, stiffened and shaped into a diadem with three cross pieces. On the ribbons are two rows of large diamonds and three of smaller stones, and a cross which tops the crown contains five huge brilliants. There are 320 of the big stones in all and 1,200 of the small ones. The total weight of diamonds on the crown is about 260 carats.

The crown was made about 1840, during the reign of Nicholas I, for the marriage of the future Czarina Marie Alexandrovna to the Czar-Heir Alexander, later Czar Alexander II. The other czarina who wore it was Marie Feodorovna, wife of Alexander III, and the ill-fated Alexandra Feodorovna, wife of Nicholas II, the last autocrat of Russia.

Chances are Catherine the Great wore the diamonds in their present settings, and that they were later simply worn on to the crown shape. The diamonds are extraordinarily clear and brilliant stones, of South American or Indian origin.

May Not Throw Flowers

Unwritten Rule Governs This Custom At Royal Weddings

Princess Marina's wedding brought plenty to many people, comments the Glasgow Herald. The system which worked so well for onlookers during the wedding of the Duke of Windsor and Mrs. Wallis Simpson was repeated, and the route followed by the three processions in connection with the ceremony were carefully studied. Many of the guests who possess a window that might give a royal view made full use of it and the commercially minded sealed an appropriate charge to visitors. It is not generally known that there are unwritten rules against throwing flowers—a custom which was prevalent until the middle of last century—was found that crushed petals made the roads unsafe for the horses in the procession and the practice was discouraged for this reason.

King "My father is so tall he can look over the garden fence."

Maibol: "So can mine, yours has got his hat on."

The secret of patience is, doing something else in the meantime.

W. H. U. 2075

New Idea On Lines

Kennel Attendants Takes Care Of Dogs During Trip

Ocean liners are getting very "doggy."

The ship's butcher, traditional keeper of passengers' dogs, was relieved of his duties when the Washington sailed for Hamilton. A new rating, that of kennel attendant, was given to a member of the crew.

The Washington's passengers no longer can question the identity of their strays or profess to mourn the sad fate of fipps as they look on their chips.

The number of passengers traveling to Europe accompanied by their dogs has increased to such an extent that new kennel accommodations had to be built and a special attendant became necessary.

Great Display Of Apples

Detroit Fruit Company Paid Over Thousand Dollars For Shipment

"The world's largest box of apples," a specially built mammoth replica of a standard apple box, was displayed by the Washburn railway on its Canal street train track in Chicago.

The box mounted on a 40 foot car, contained 75 bushels of grand 100 "extra fancy" winceps from Yakima, Wash., weighing a total of 34,252 pounds.

On either end was a huge replica of a shipping tag carrying names of contributing apple growers.

By Ellen Worth

Manicure can speak loud sentences And Are Not Rude

The parrot's reputation for being the best talking bird in the house. It has a very serious rival in that little parrot-like fellow, the budgerigar.

In the recent bird show at the Crystal Palace, London, there were recently budgerigars that could talk the average parrot's head off. They recite poems and nursery rhymes. They have imitations as well as snapshots and they are not rude, like parrots. It is even claimed for some of them that they speak long sentences in the best English. "Bibi Martin," shown by Mrs. S. A. Martin, of Cardiff, has a repertoire, which includes:

Many had a little lamb.

It was there was a snow.

Then there is Joey who belongs to H. Lucas of Wadhurst. He knows several poems, and he will tell you it is "O.K. Baby," and lots of other things. One of the smallest birds in the show drew the biggest crowd. It was the (1,000 rufous and topaz humming bird that changed color as you looked at it.

The Canary Islands grow a banana that is small in size but rich in flavor.

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COMMENDED FOR BRAVERY

Little Jonness In Science

ATMOSPHERE

(By Gordon H. Guest, M.A.)

Around the earth are eleven and a half trillions of pounds of air, or, as we should say, eleven and a half trillions of pounds of air.

Because this pressure is distributed evenly on all parts of the body, it does not cause any pain or discomfort. The air exerts a pressure of a little more than fourteen pounds per square inch, but the pressure is less on the lower parts of the body.

Therefore, an Italian scientist, and most of the world, was the first to discover that air had weight. This is now a fact, and it is a fact that the air has weight.

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Has Plan To Bring Rain

Los Angeles Chemist And Inventor Tells How It Is Done

The great drought that left its scorching mark down the centre of the United States last summer could have been averted, or at least greatly tempered, by a handful of dust, believes R. H. Snowden, a Los Angeles chemist.

There was plenty of dust over the arid zone. But for rain-producing purposes it was the wrong kind. If it were correct.

Snowden, 60-year-old scientist and inventor, will present to the United States inventors' congress, opening at Los Angeles Jan. 7, a method for super-inducing rain. It sounds easy: From an airplane, disseminate ammonium nitrate, powder-like in texture, through moisture-bearing atmospheres. A minute particle of anything, he claims, will collect water, acting as the "core" around which raindrops can form.

Thus, he believes, each tiny particle of ammonium nitrate would become a nucleus for a raindrop, collecting and attracting the water moisture-laden air. The drops having reached a certain weight and density, would fall.

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A SON—to Mr. and Mrs. J. Rutchko, of Hueser, on December 14th.

Ivan Lindgren, of Majorville, is a patient in the Bassano Hospital. Mr. Anderson, of Gleichen, has undergone a major operation in the local hospital.

Church of the Blessed Virgin

Rev. J. Burton Thomas, Rector

Special Christmas Day Services. Christmas morning at 11 a.m. A Family Service for the Community

Everybody Welcome.

Knox Presbyterian Church

Rev. John Hart, Minister

Sunday, December 23rd. 11 a.m. — Sunday School. 7:30 p.m. — Evening Worship. Christmas Hymns, Solo, Sermon. All are invited.

Xmas Gift Store

Silk Lingerie makes a lovely and useful gift. Real silk dance sets, trimmed with exquisite lace, tailored French pants, also smartly trimmed bloomers, or silk pajamas.

Price - 75c to \$1.45

Greeting Cards

Christmas and New Year, suitably worded on quality cards. Price, 5c & 10c

Xmas Decorations

For tree or room; bells, streamers and rope, etc. Price - 5c up.

Ladies' Overshoes

A real gift for her. Lace velvet Dressy and comfortable. Price - \$3.85 a pair

Ladies' Scarves

Silk or wool in newest patterns. Warm and soft; bright colors. Price - 75c & 95c

Men's Shirts

Coloured silk fabrics with soft collar. Well-tailored White, Blue, Sand; size 15 and 15½ only. A quality shirt. Price - \$2.50

Men's Caps

8½ smart new tweeds, silk lined, with unbreakable peaks. Price - \$1.45

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

GROCERIES

FRUIT SPECIAL—1 can straw berries, 1 can red plums, 1 can Bartlett pears, 1 can apricots, all for 45c. FIGS, finest quality Turkish, per package, 25c. GINGER, quart bottles, 25c. ALMOND PASTE, ready to use, 45c. COLORED COCOANUT, pkg. 25c. DATES, fresh pitted, large pkt. 25c. CHOCOLATES & FRENCH CREAMS, per lb. 35c. CHRISTMAS MIXED candy, per lb. 25c. COFFEE, Star special, 4 lbs. \$1.20. TEA, broken orange pekoe, lb. 25c. BORDEN'S MALTED MILK, 16 oz., 25c. FIG BAR BISCUITS, fresh, per lb. 20c. COOKIES, Roman Meal, doz. 10c. BEANS, green cut or yellow wax, 2 lbs. 25c. JELLY POWDERS, true fruit, 2 lbs. 25c. SCOTCH OAT CAKE, pkg. 10c. KIPPER SNACKS, 3 tins for 25c. TOMATO JUICE, Aylmer, tin 10c. CHEESE, Bilton, special each 40c.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

ORANGES, sweet & juicy, 5 doz. for \$1.20. BANANAS, 2 lbs. 25c. LARGE ORANGES, doz. 40c. JAP. ORANGES, box \$1.10. TABLE GRAPES, 2 lbs. 25c. Fresh Lettuce, Ripe Tomatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower.

JAMES JOHNSTON
"The Quality Store"

Local and Personal News

If you know of an item for this column, let us know. We appreciate your help in recording the comings and goings of friends and relatives.

COMING EVENTS

The whist drive, bridge and dance sponsored by the Bassano Juvenile Hockey Club is all arranged for tomorrow night, Friday, Dec. 27.

As an added attraction, a turkey, kindly donated by J. Hought, Countess, will be raffled off during the evening.

There will be a prize for bridge and another for whist.

Cards commence at 8:30 and dancing to the music of Leo Davis, at 11. A lunch will also be served.

As the team is badly in need of new equipment, this cause is worthy of everybody's support. Tickets can be obtained from any of the boys.

Still another social highlight of the season is the big dance being put on for the Local "Sunshine" on Tuesday, January 1.

Len Davis will again direct proceedings, and favors and novelties of every description will be distributed free. Don't forget it.

And lastly, although still a month in the future, the Firemen's Dance, on January 25th. Remember the date! Don't plan another thing for that evening!

Want Ads. get results

WANT ADS

REWARD—Is reward will be paid for information as to whereabouts of 5 CATTLE, brand of R. 7th, last seen North of Bassano.
Ben Steinbach, Bassano.

FOR SALE—Chrysler 60 sedan. \$150. or trade for delivery car.
Box 87, Bassano. 22p

STRAYED into P. Penner's herd: a grey and white heifer, 1 yr. 3 mos. new-yorked. Owner apply to P. Penner, 214 miles east. 4 mile N. of Hueser, of Counties.
—22 p of Brooks, were the goal-posters.

B. P. Currie and A. P. Pierson were in Banff for a few days.

Russell Basarab made a trip to Calgary this week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. McNaughton were visitors in Calgary last Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thompson and Fred were in Calgary on Saturday of last week.

One of Bassano's prominent lawyers was seen brandishing an axe on the platform at the Social Credit meeting on Monday.

The streets were lined with cars last Monday evening, when farmers from the whole country-side flocked to town to hear "Social Credit Explained."

The weather has been ideal for that favorite indoor sport, curling. The ice is about perfect again and will permit posting of a regular draw soon.

Sr. Hockey Team Ties Brooks 1-1

The Bassano Senior Hockey Team tied with the Brooks aggregation on the local rink last Wednesday, 1-1. The Bassano boys showed much improvement in style over their first appearance in Brooks, but have yet to show more skill at picking the corners of the net. Though not a heavy team by any means, each man is capable of giving and taking with the best of them. A little more combination, practice, and they will give the club customers something to roar about.

Wednesday's game was marred by display of temper on the part of one of the Brooks team, and an ensuing scarp with the referee, Bert Downes. Bert had his spectacles broken in the fracas. The Brooks man received a match penalty.

Brooks, and V. Nelson, of Counties.

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

BEST QUALITY CHRISTMAS CAKE, lb 35c
GENUINE SCOTCH SHORTBREAD, 35c & 50c
CHERRY CAKE, finest quality, per lb 40c
CHICKEN PATTIES made to order. Please have orders in no later than Saturday.

NEILSON'S CHOCOLATES JAP ORANGES
XMAS PACKAGES of CIGARS, CIGARETTES
Ice Cream and Ice Cream Bricks delivered to you on Christmas Day.

BASSANO BAKERY

Compliments of the Season

to one and all.

May the New Year bring you Joy and Happiness.

JACKSON'S CONFECTIONERY

Christmas 1934 W.R.L. New Years 1935

Christmas comes and dispels the fog of depression, makes us truly grateful for the warmth of friendships.

At the dawn of 1935 we pause to wish our friends and others health and happiness.

Roy Smith

Heartiest Christmas Greetings

and

Best Wishes for the New Year

Currie & Milroy, Ltd.

Bassano and Hueser



CHRISTMAS GIFTS

at McKEE'S


The selection of Gifts at the store is excellent.

Gifts for ...

Mother
Dad
Sister
Brother
Baby

VISIT TOYLAND ...

the Children's Paradise.



We take advantage of this opportunity to wish Everyone a Very Merry Christmas.

A. McKEE & Staff.

McKEE'S STORES

"Always at Your Service" Phone 9